

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## TRIBUTE TO JOHN A. HOOPER

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent John A. Hooper who passed away on January 17, 2007, at the Sequoias Portola Valley, California, at the age of 89. He was an extraordinary Californian and a public servant who devoted much of his career to serving his country.

Mr. Hooper was born in San Francisco in 1917, graduating from Thacher School in 1934 and from Stanford University in 1938 where he earned a bachelor's degree in political science. He earned a law degree from Harvard Law School and served as a captain in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946. He married Trish Lowrey, the great love of his life, in 1943 and they had four children during their enduring marriage of 63 years.

Mr. Hooper was a distinguished attorney with the law firm of Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro and practiced tax law for 10 years until he was asked by President Eisenhower to represent the U.S. Department of Defense in NATO. He also served under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson as Minister to the U.S. Mission to NATO. He was based in Paris with his wife and four children until 1967 and was honored with the Pentagon's Meritorious Civilian Service Award for his great work. His son, John C. Hooper, said: "All of Europe was emerging from World War II, and the United States was helping Europe to get back on its feet; that was a real high point of my parents' lives."

Upon their return to the United States, John, Trish and their family moved to the land his grandfather purchased, Mountain Home Ranch in Woodside where they lived until moving to the Sequoias. He devoted himself to working with charitable and community organizations, serving as president of Planned Parenthood of Northern California, as president of the Auxiliary of the University of California Hospital, and as president of the Board of Delegates for Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California. He was a member of the Woodside Planning Commission for 7 years and served as its chair from 1979 to 1980. He was a member of the Pacific Union Club and president of the Cypress Lawn Cemetery Association.

I had the privilege of knowing John Hooper. He was an elegant, intelligent gentleman who was respected by his entire community. I benefited from his wise counsel and our country is better because of his patriotism and service. John Hooper was a national treasure and that's why Madam Speaker I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest sympathy to Trish Hooper and their children, John C. Hooper of Point Arena, Margo H. Blair of Chicago, Lawrence Hooper of Twisp, WA, and Helen McCloskey of Rumsey, CA.

## REMEMBERING STATE SENATOR WILLIAM A. TRUBAN

### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring the attention of the House to the passing of Virginia State Senator William A. Truban on Saturday, February 3, 2007. Senator Truban represented Virginia's 27th district in the Virginia General Assembly for over 20 years.

A veterinarian and father of six from Shenandoah County, Senator Truban was a leader in his community and dedicated his life to helping those in Winchester and the surrounding area. Inserted for the RECORD is the obituary published in the Winchester Star which details the many accomplishments of Senator Truban.

[From the Winchester Star, Feb. 5, 2007]

FORMER STATE SEN. TRUBAN DIES

(By Suzanne E. Wilder)

WINCHESTER.—William A. Truban, a longtime Virginia state senator who represented Winchester and the surrounding region for more than two decades, died on Saturday.

The resident of Shenandoah County and retired veterinarian was 82.

Truban represented the state's 27th District—which then included Shenandoah, Frederick, Clarke, and Warren counties and the city of Winchester—from 1971 through his 1992 retirement from politics.

His family and friends are mourning the loss of a man who was well known in the Shenandoah Valley as "Senator Truban," "Doc," or—to his loved ones—"Pap," according to a statement from one of his sons, John W. Truban.

Born in 1924 in Garrett County, Md., Truban served during World War II as a member of the U.S. Army Air Force.

After his service, he attended West Virginia Wesleyan College, where he met his future wife, Mildred Hayes. He then attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

John Truban, one of Truban's six children, said his parents selected Woodstock and the Shenandoah Valley for their home after visiting Winchester, where one of William Truban's sisters lived.

Truban became the only licensed veterinarian in Shenandoah County, John Truban said.

He worked all over the Valley and cared for animals from Woodstock to Haymarket to Stephens City. His veterinary practice, Shenandoah Animal Hospital, is still in business though Truban retired several years ago. His son, Thomas, continues to run the clinic.

In 1970, Truban was elected to the Virginia State Senate. He had been urged to run by several prominent Republicans, including then-Gov. A. Linwood Holton Jr.

"I met him when he was under a cow," Holton said in a telephone interview on Sunday. Their first phone conversation, Holton recalled, had been after someone informed him that Truban was caring for a sick cow.

Holton had heard that Truban would make "an excellent candidate for state Senate," he

said. "And he became a strong leader in the Senate."

"You need good people to represent the area. He was well known and well liked," said Warren B. French, a former chairman of the state Republican party who lives in Woodstock. "And he made a great senator." "He'll be missed, but he made a valuable contribution in many ways to his community," said French, who is a former chairman at Shentel and knew Truban from the Woodstock United Methodist Church.

Many of the people who worked with him politically remember Truban as a person with "strong integrity," in Holton's words.

I. Clinton Miller served in the General Assembly for much of the time Truban was a state senator.

Miller represented Shenandoah County and Woodstock in the House of Delegates and was also a Republican. At the time, the GOP was in the minority in Virginia politics.

"We shared a lot of time on the road, and we shared a lot of discussions," Miller said.

Truban "was especially well-respected by both sides of the aisle," Miller said. "He was always concerned with whatever was best for Virginia."

John Truban said his father instilled the value of hard work in his children.

"He loved working," he said. "His hobby was working."

That diligent attitude likely came from growing up during the Great Depression, the son said. "His era, they had no safety net."

"I think what we all probably got from his is a sense of working hard and . . . trying to help others," John Truban said.

But that was not the only trait Truban passed to his kids. John Truban said his dad, who was Italian by blood, loved to cook and passed the same interest to his five sons and one daughter.

"My dad always would cook and help out in the kitchen," he said.

Truban had health problems in recent years, including congestive heart failure. He died as a result of those illnesses, John Truban said.

Truban is survived by his wife, six children, 25 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and one brother. Truban's two sisters and a brother are deceased.

A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Woodstock United Methodist Church. Dellinger Funeral Home in Woodstock is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the Woodstock United Methodist Church, the Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and the Shenandoah County Animal Shelter.

## IN RECOGNITION OF COACH TONY "MAC" McDONALD'S 600 CAREER VICTORIES

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coach Tony McDonald for his tremendous achievement of 600 career

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

victories as head basketball coach at Central High School in Allentown, FL, located in my district in northwest Florida.

Coach Mac himself graduated in 1969 from Allentown School, one of three schools that would come to be known as Central High School. After graduating, he went on to honorably serve his country for 4 years in the United States Air Force at Eglin Air Force Base, not far from home. During his time in the service, Tony was able to come back to Allentown and watch the basketball games, developing a stronger desire to return and coach at the spirited school.

After the Air Force, Tony stayed in northwest Florida and attended the University of West Florida, graduating from there in 1977. It was shortly after this graduation that he returned to become the Junior Varsity Basketball coach at his alma mater of Allentown High School. A year later, he became head coach, a position he stayed with for three seasons. Tony left for rival Milton High School to serve as their head basketball coach for the following season.

Tony's heart was always with his alma mater, though, and soon enough he returned once again to Allentown School. By the time the 1985–86 basketball season kicked off with Coach at the helm, Allentown School had consolidated with Chumuckla School and Munson School, and the high school sections became Central High School, and under this name Tony would coach his students for the next 22 seasons, having a banner career in the process.

For six seasons during those early years at Central, Coach Mac was in charge of both the boys' and girls' teams, and was able to bring the girls' team their first winning season. Every day was another challenge to better his students, and many acknowledge how well he motivated them. What many rival schools noted was Coach Mac's ability to turn a small squad into a basketball powerhouse. While many other schools had teams of several more players, Central's smaller squads continued to play tireless games. While the energy that Coach Mac put into his players was a great factor, so was the energy they gave back to their dedicated coach. Coach's energy also carries into the classroom, where he teaches both geography and American history. It would be difficult to find someone more committed to helping students than Tony McDonald.

Reaching 500 career wins was a milestone in itself, so it was with even more excitement that Coach Mac reached his 600th career win on January 16, 2007. Given the devotion to his players on and off the court, it should not come as a big surprise. During his time as head coach, he has led the team to nine play-off appearances and five district championships. In fact, a sixth district championship this season is not out of the realm of possibility.

Coach McDonald has set a high standard in his dedication to his work and his devotion to his students. A benchmark has been established for many other high school coaches. Coaches serve as role models for students, and Coach Mac has without a doubt been a great role model for those that played for him. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is a great honor for me to congratulate Coach Tony "Mac" McDonald for over 20 years of dedication to his high school students and an amazing 600 career wins as head coach of Central High School.

IN MEMORY OF WALTER  
SHERIDAN HARPOOL

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Walter Sheridan Harpool of Denton, Texas, who passed away at 84 years of age on Sunday, January 28, 2007.

Mr. Walter Harpool, also known as "Pinky", was born in Hebron, Texas on February 14, 1922 to Josephine and R.T. Harpool. The family moved to Denton, Texas in 1928, and later started the company Harpool Seed, Inc. Created in 1962, Harpool Fertilizer Co. was the first independent bulk blending plant for fertilizer in Texas.

Mr. Harpool served in the Army Air Force during World War II. After training at Santa Ana, King City and Lancaster, CA, he received his wings at Phoenix, AZ. He became a flight instructor at Perrin Field, Sherman, TX, and then took B-18 training at Sebring, FL. Mr. Harpool was later stationed at Langley Field as a pilot for radar students.

Due to his dedication and passion for agriculture and agribusiness, he was honored as Man of the Year in Texas Agriculture in 1987, and in 1998 was name Conservation Businessman of the Year. He had a fine interest in farm production and improvement, and regularly donated materials such as seed and fertilizer for agriculture research and demonstrations across the state of Texas. Not only did he serve as Chairman of the Denton County Program Building Committee, where he worked with numerous crop and livestock committees, but he also served on the State Board of Agriculture during Governor Bill Clements administration. Mr. Walter Harpool was an avid supporter of many civic functions, such as the Denton Youth Fair, the North Texas State Fair, United Way, and the Denton Chamber of Commerce.

In 1987 Mr. Harpool bought and renovated an old train caboose, which he used as his office. He enjoyed the occasions on which his friends and customers would drop by to visit him. His outstanding and honest character continued to delight those he came into contact with. Despite his life as a strong businessman, taking care of his family held the utmost importance to Mr. Harpool. He showered them with love and devotion, and took pride in providing for them.

Mr. Walter Sheridan Harpool is survived by his wife, Rose Harpool, his son, Walter S. Harpool, Jr., and his brother, Tom Harpool. I extend my sincerest sympathies to his family and friends, and I am honored to have been able to represent such a remarkable man.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF  
THE KEISER FAMILY

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and commitment of the Keiser family. Evelyn Keiser was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and

graduated from Temple University. She was one of the first women in the United States to receive a Bachelors Degree in Medical Technology.

Evelyn Keiser moved to south Florida in 1961 and co-founded Keiser College in 1977. Art & Belinda Keiser, along with Evelyn, have continued to serve our community by providing superior education through Keiser College, now known as Keiser University.

The Keiser Family continues to contribute to Broward County and the State of Florida, not only through their educational institutions, but also through philanthropy. Keiser University will celebrate their 30th Anniversary in 2007.

Madam Speaker, I proclaim January 31, 2007, as Keiser University Day in the 23rd Congressional District.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PERCY  
LAVON JULIAN

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today we honor one of the most accomplished scientists of the twentieth century; a man who would not be deterred by racial bias. Today we honor the life and research of Dr. Percy Julian.

Dr. Julian worked tirelessly, and won acclaim for his work in organic chemistry. A brilliant chemist, Dr. Julian developed a treatment for glaucoma, a new process to produce cortisone, and a fire retardant used by the US Navy, which saved countless American lives during World War II. Throughout his distinguished career Dr. Julian was awarded an impressive 105 patents. His many scientific accomplishments led to his election as a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences in 1973.

Dr. Percy's contribution to the study of science is remarkable, yet we cannot forget the racial barriers that Dr. Julian was able to overcome. Born the grandson of Alabama slaves, Dr. Julian was a civil rights pioneer. Dr. Julian was forced to fight through racial prejudice and intimidation to establish himself as a pre-eminent chemist. Let us not forget, as the first African-American family to live in the Chicago suburb of Oak Park, the Julian house was fire-bombed in 1950. And again, on June 12, 1951, the Julian house was attacked, this time with dynamite. Yet, through it all, we should not forget the courage he displayed and his perseverance.

We, as a nation, owe much to Percy Julian and it is a privilege to honor him today.

HONORING BLACK HISTORY  
MONTH

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I welcome you to join me in commemorating the the history of Africans in the Americas. Since 1926, the month of

February has been the designated time for honoring the Black contribution. It serves as a reminder that we must be ever vigilant of the Black experience in this country, and the African roots of our shared concepts of freedom, hope, and justice. This year's theme for Black History Month is fittingly, "From Slavery to Freedom: The Story of Africans in the Americas."

As Chair of the Congressional Ethiopia and Ethiopian American Caucus, I am particularly interested in the history of Africans in this country. My experience with this community has taught me that the history of the Diaspora is as complex and divergent as the communities themselves. Our challenge this month is educate ourselves about the Diaspora and to understand how African Americans embrace and explore their heritage.

This February, let us broaden our understanding of the myriad ways people of African descent arrived here—beyond the slave trade. Let us be honest and open about the impact that slavery has had on African descendant communities today, but let us also celebrate the African contribution to our culture in spite of it. The best way to honor the African American experience is to educate oneself and one's community. I urge you to use this month to expose yourselves to the ways in which the African American experience has already been made a part of your life.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.J. RES. 20, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2007*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we consider this important legislation to highlight several matters of critical importance within the funding allocations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA.

Over past years several of my colleagues and I have worked hard to ensure that NASA fulfills its commitment to its science mission, as well as its commitment to the excellent men and women who daily carry out NASA's cutting-edge missions. In particular, I want to acknowledge and pay tribute to my constituents at NASA Ames Research Center, one of the world's premier research facilities located in my district in California's Silicon Valley.

As we pass this continuing resolution, which we are forced to do by the inaction of the previous majority leadership, it is important that NASA recognize and adhere to the clear intent expressed by both the House and Senate under H.R. 5672, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2007, and the accompanying committee reports—House Report 109–520 and Senate Report 109–280. I would like to highlight some important points from these bills.

Within the House-passed version of H.R. 5672, Congress included the following points: Recognizing the disproportionate reduction proposed by NASA to its research and analysis budget, a recommended \$50 million increase was included.

Following NASA's misguided attempt to discontinue funding the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, SOFIA project, the House concluded that should NASA's internal review of the program result in a recommended continuation of the program, NASA should accordingly reallocate funds to SOFIA.

Building on the priorities expressed by the House, the Senate Appropriations Committee subsequently included the following high-priority points:

In addressing NASA's management of the SOFIA project, Senate Appropriators stated:

"The budget request eliminates funding for the SOFIA mission in fiscal year 2007. Since the budget was released, NASA has completed a review of its decision and has concluded that there are no scientific or technical reasons for canceling the mission . . . This calls into question the credibility of the science directorate in making budget decisions and determining scientific priorities.

"The Committee expects NASA to come up with a plan to fund the SOFIA mission in 2007 from within available funds through a reprogramming request subject to section 505 of this act. In determining the funding strategy for this program, the Committee directs NASA to follow the recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences Decadal survey in Astronomy and Astrophysics when setting mission and budget priorities. Missions that are ranked higher in the surveys should be given priority over missions that are ranked lower in priority with launch dates."

To ensure the protection of NASA's critical workforce, the current moratorium on involuntary reductions in force, RIF, was extended from its current expiration date of March 2007 until the end of fiscal year 2008.

These provisions are unequivocal and must be honored by NASA as such. In particular, given Congress's stated and clear questioning of NASA's guidance of the SOFIA project to date, NASA should refrain from making significant changes to SOFIA without Congress first having the opportunity to review their proposals.

Additionally, it is critical that the existing prohibition on the transfer of funds between major accounts is observed consistent with the NASA Authorization Act of 2005. The reprogramming of funds across accounts has in the past been used to change funding allocations within NASA in ways that counter the legislative intent of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, NASA and its institutional capabilities are a critical component of our Nation's high-technology research and development infrastructure and must be protected for the sake of our future innovative capability. Ensuring these provisions passed by the Congress are honored as part of this fiscal year 2007 funding process will ensure NASA's continued excellence.

MATH AND SCIENCE INCENTIVE  
ACT OF 2007

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, today I introduced with Congressmen EHLERS the Math and Science Incentive Act of 2005. This legis-

lation would pay—over the life of the loan up to \$10,000—the interest on the undergraduate student loans of math, science or engineering majors who agree to work 5 years in their respective fields. The idea for this legislation came from the book *Winning the Future*, by my friend and our former colleague Newt Gingrich. America's dominance in science and innovation is slipping, but this legislation can help combat this trend.

We are facing today a critical shortage of science and engineering students in the United States. Unfortunately, there is little public awareness of this trend or its implications for jobs, industry or national security in America's future. We need to make sure we have people who can fill these science and engineering positions. In an era in which students are graduating college with record levels of debt, I am hopeful that this incentive will be a significant motivator in attracting or retaining math, science and engineering students.

How do we know that our Nation is slipping in the areas of math, science, engineering and technology? Americans, for decades, led the world in patents. But we can no longer claim that lead. The percentage of U.S. patents has been steadily declining as foreigners, especially Asians, have become more active and in some fields have seized the innovation lead. The United States share of its own industrial patents now stands at only 52 percent. Foreign advances in basic science now often rival or even exceed America's. Published research by Americans is lagging.

Physical Review, a series of top physics journals, last year tracked a reversal in which American scientific papers, in two decades, dropped from the most published to minority status. In 2003—the most recent year statistics are available—the total number of American papers published was just 29 percent, down from 61 percent in 1983.

Another measuring stick: Nobel prizes. From the 1960s through the 1990s, American scientists dominated. Now the rest of the world has caught up. Our scientists win now about half of the Nobel prizes, the rest go to Britain, Japan, Russia, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and New Zealand. According to the National Science Foundation, the United States has a smaller share of the worldwide total of science and engineering doctoral degrees awarded than both Asia and Europe.

This is a real problem. In 2000, Asian universities accounted for almost 1.2 million of the world's science and engineering degrees. European universities—including Russia and eastern Europe accounted for 850,000.

North American universities accounted for only about 500,000. Since 1980, science and engineering positions in the U.S. have grown at five times the rate of positions in the civilian workforce as a whole.

The Math and Science Incentive Act augments the recently approved National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent grants—National SMART grants. National SMART grants provide grants of up to \$4,000 to Pell Grant-eligible students in their third and fourth academic year of undergraduate education at a 4-year, degree-granting institution of higher education. The student must be pursuing a major in the physical, life, or computer sciences, math, technology, or engineering or a foreign language. The student must also have a grade-point average of at least 3.0.

SMART grants are an important tool for attracting and retaining lower-income students in

the critical areas of math, science and engineering. The Math and Science Incentive Act will build on the SMART grants by providing a direct incentive to middle class students who may not meet Pell grant eligibility. We critically need to attract and retain the best and brightest to study these challenging fields and this loan forgiveness may just make the difference for some.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this legislation to help America continue to be the innovation leader of the world.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 10

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the 80th Anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 10.

In 1927, Boy Scout Troop 10 was founded and chartered to First Baptist Church Pensacola in Pensacola, Florida. Today, eighty years later, it is recognized as the oldest active Boy Scout troop in the Boy Scout Gulf Coast Council, which serves the Florida panhandle and lower Alabama.

Over the course of its history, thousands of young men have made the trek with Troop 10 under the leadership of twenty-nine Scoutmasters, and eighty-six have achieved the Eagle Scout rank. The Boy Scouts of America's highest honor.

As trustworthy, loyal, courteous, brave, and reverent young men, Troop 10 exemplifies everything which scouts stand for, and the very ideals that all Americans should strive to attain as our duty to God and this great Nation. From the beginning, Troop 10 has won the hearts and high respect of the communities of Northwest Florida and their presence will continue to do so.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the 80th Anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 10 and its service to God and Country.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF PERCY LAVON JULIAN

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 34, to honor Percy Julian, an American research chemist of international renown, and a pioneer in the chemical synthesis of medicinal drugs. During his lifetime, Percy Julian received more than 100 chemical patents.

Percy Julian attended elementary school in Birmingham and later moved to Montgomery, Alabama where he attended high school. After high school, Julian applied to and was accepted into DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. At DePauw, he began as a probationary student, having to take higher level high school classes along with his freshman

and sophomore course load. He was named a member of the Sigma Xi honorary society as well as a Phi Beta Kappa member.

Upon graduation from DePauw in 1920, he was selected as the class valedictorian. Julian was awarded the Austin Fellowship in Chemistry and moved to the distinguished Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he achieved straight A's, finished at the top of his class and received a Masters Degree in 1923.

Percy Julian proved himself to be a brilliant chemist. Among his many patents, most notable are—a foam fire retardant, a treatment for glaucoma and a low-cost process to produce cortisone. His innovative approach to chemistry helped to make important medicines more accessible to millions.

Please join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 34, honoring the life of Percy Lavon Julian, a pioneer in the field of organic chemistry research and development and the first and only African American chemist to be inducted into the National Academy of Sciences.

#### IN MEMORY OF DR. DAVID RAY REDDEN

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. David Ray Redden who passed away at 85 years of age on Sunday, January 21, 2007.

Dr. David Ray Redden lived a long, beautiful life. He was born on December 22, 1921 in McKinney, Texas. He served in World War II from 1944–1946 as a Technical Sergeant (4th Corps-5th Army), and earned the Bronze Star for his bravery while serving as a Forward Sound Ranging Observer in Italy's Po Valley Campaign. Once the war ended, Mr. Redden completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology at the University of North Texas, which is where he met his wife, Ruth Hillin, who attended Texas Women's University at the time. The couple was married three months after their first date, and they were married for 58 years.

Mr. David Redden obtained his M.S. degree from the University of North Texas, and then received a Ph.D. from Baylor University Medical School and Graduate Research Institute. Due to his passion for research and teaching, Dr. Redden joined the UNT faculty after teaching Physiology at Baylor University College of Dentistry, where he remained for 30 years. As the Chair of the Pre-Professional Advisory Committee, he was involved in the placement of students into medical, dental, and veterinary schools. He was also a member of the adjunct faculty at the UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas. Dr. Redden achieved many honors while at UNT, which include: Outstanding Professor, Outstanding Service Award, Distinguished Teaching Award, Outstanding Educator, and Outstanding Alumni for Excellence in Biological Sciences. After his retirement, he was named Professor Emeritus.

Not only was Dr. Redden an intelligent and meritorious professor, but he was also a talented duck carver, skilled hunter, and loyal church member. Most importantly, however, was his love and devotion to his wife, children, and grandchildren.

Dr. David Redden is survived by his wife, Ruth Hillin Redden; five children: Pam Drenner, Mike Redden, Ken Redden, Ron Redden, Chris Redden; eleven grandchildren: Bryan and Matt Drenner, Corbett Redden, Collin, Sean, Jennifer, Matthew Ryan, Tracy, Shannon, Kevin and Derek Redden; and two great-grandchildren Riley and Price Webb.

As a professor of mine, Dr. Redden was not only a mentor, but also an inspiration to me, and I was honored to represent him in Congress. I extend my sincerest sympathies to his family and friends; he will truly be missed by all.

#### COMMENDING THE CHAMBER OF SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA AND MEMBERS OF THE ZETA PSI LAMBDA CHAPTER OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend some of my constituents in Lake Charles, Louisiana for their efforts to help complete the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial. As a result of the hard work of the Chamber of Southwest Louisiana and members of the Zeta Psi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, a model of the historic Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial will make Lake Charles its first stop on a national tour. The goal of the tour is to raise additional funding for the memorial, which is set to be erected on the National Mall in Washington, DC in 2008.

Because of Dr. King's courage, words, and actions, America is stronger and stands as a beacon of hope for people around the world. The monuments on our National Mall tell the story of our achievements as a country, but they also tell the story of our struggles. It is only fitting that Dr. King be honored with a memorial to provide a living history of his role in the civil rights movement.

Dr. King did not just talk about character, he lived it everyday. His leadership changed American life, and his legacy will continue to endure. Today, I commend the leadership of the Chamber of Southwest Louisiana and members of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for doing their part to ensure that Dr. King's legacy endures.

#### IN HONOR OF LITTLETON AND JANE MITCHELL

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Littleton P. Mitchell and Jane E. Mitchell, two of the leading civil rights advocates from my home state of Delaware. On February 6th, Howard High School of Technology will kick off a fundraising drive to establish a chair in honor of the Mitchells at the University of Delaware. I cannot think of two more worthy recipients.

Littleton was born in Milford, Delaware and attended Howard High School. He served as a lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve and spent time at Fort Bragg in North Carolina, as well as the Tuskegee Air Base in Alabama. In addition to his Army service, Lit, as he was known to his friends, worked at the Governor Bacon Residential Treatment Center for Social and Emotional Disturbed Youth for 36 years. Most noteworthy though, were his contributions as State President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

During his 31 years as President of Delaware's NAACP, Littleton played an important role in several civil rights advancements. He helped integrate all of Delaware's hospitals and worked to eliminate Delaware's Inn Keepers Law that allowed restaurants to refuse service to Black citizens. During the same period, Lit oversaw the integration of local movie theaters and Delaware's volunteer fire companies. I could continue but his accomplishments are too vast to cover in a single document.

Jane Mitchell was not only Littleton's loving wife, but an accomplished registered nurse and community activist. Also a graduate of Howard High School, Jane's nursing career led her to many different hospitals around the United States, including the Tuskegee Institute Hospital in Alabama, the Jewish Hospital of Philadelphia and several hospitals throughout Delaware. She held the distinguished titles of Head Nurse at the Governor Bacon Health Center, and Director of Nursing at Delaware State Hospital.

Jane's impressive career achievements and numerous volunteer activities have earned her a great deal of recognition. Most notably, she was recognized by the National Association of College Women as the Woman of the Year and the Alpha Nu Sigma Chapter of the Rho Sorority awarded her the Outstanding Negro Woman Award.

This couple has achieved so much in their lives, it is truly impossible to do them justice at this time. I am grateful for all they have given to the State of Delaware and I cannot think of two better people to name a chair after. I wish Howard High School luck in their endeavor and I know they will work diligently to honor their distinguished alumni.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE MOUNT ZION AME CHURCH OF MILLBURN, NEW JERSEY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church in the Township of Millburn, Essex County, New Jersey, a vibrant community I am proud to represent. On February 18, 2007, its good parishioners will celebrate the Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church's 105th Anniversary.

The Mount Zion AME Church was organized in the Spring of 1888 by former members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Springfield, New Jersey, in order to give African American domestic workers a place of their own to gather and worship on Sunday mornings. Mr. Henry Chambers, Mrs. Willhelmina Veals and

Ms. Ella Taylor began the church with a Sunday School in a florist shop on Taylor Street in Millburn. A short while later the church moved to the Old Mountain House on Church Street, where it remained until 1902.

In 1889, Reverend Chase was appointed as pastor of the Mount Zion AME Church and served for 4 years. The Reverend John Roberts succeeded Reverend Chase in 1893 and served until 1895. Reverend Pendleton served as pastor in 1895, followed by Reverend Johnson in 1896.

The Reverend Adolphus Willis became pastor in 1897 and served until 1909. On August 20, 1902, Reverend Willis was instrumental in the church's purchase of the building located at 56 Church Street. The Mount Zion AME Church remains at this location today.

A total of twenty pastors led the church from between 1909 and 2003, when the Reverend Cecil Bonds was appointed pastor. Reverend Bonds continues as pastor of the Mount Zion AME Church today.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Mount Zion AME Church of Millburn, New Jersey on the celebration of its 105th anniversary.

#### TRIBUTE TO W.R. "REG" GOMES

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to W.R. "Reg" Gomes, who is retiring with distinction as Vice President, Agriculture and Natural Resources, for the University of California.

Over the past four decades, Reg has dedicated his life to the land-grant university missions of teaching, research and public service. He has mentored hundreds of current agricultural leaders from his early career as a professor at The Ohio State University, then as the Dean of Agriculture at the University of Illinois and finally in his home state to which he returned 11 years ago to lead the vast and varied agricultural education, science and Cooperative Extension programs of the University of California.

The grandson of immigrants from the Azores of Portugal, Reg was raised in the hard working dairy farming culture of California's Central Valley. This early appreciation for farming life led Reg to California Polytechnic State University (San Luis Obispo) to study animal science. Reg and his brother became the first in their family to graduate from college. Reg went on to earn a master's degree from Washington State University and a Ph.D. from Purdue University. This is an impressive collection of degrees for a young man from a small dairy farm in the small town of Hanford, California and it was the beginning of a remarkable academic career.

As an internationally recognized scientist and educator, Reg has been a leading voice on several prominent State and national boards, including the Farm Foundation Agricultural Round Table, the California State Board of Food and Agriculture, the California Farm Bureau Federation Board and the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources of the National Research Council, which he currently chairs.

As a member of the House Agriculture Committee, I am particularly proud that California is the Nation's leading agricultural state with nearly \$30 billion in sales coming from over 88,000 farms which produce 350 different commodities. These impressive statistics are due in large part to the innovative spirit of California farmers who are usually the first to use new technologies and science-based farming practices, and it is our state's great land-grant university—the University of California—and leaders like Reg Gomes whom we have to thank for much of our farming successes.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to offer these words in tribute to my friend Reg Gomes and to wish him and his wife Anne a wonderful next phase of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH  
"DUKE" CARTER FOR OVER 40  
YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE  
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF  
PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a man whose professional life has been dedicated to improving the lives of working men and women in Massachusetts and our Nation. Joseph "Duke" Carter is a remarkable labor leader with a long and illustrious career with the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades.

Duke joined the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades in 1965 and over the next 21 years worked on numerous jobs throughout Boston and the State of Massachusetts. In this capacity Duke developed complete comprehension of the trade and was known for his expertise and attention to detail.

In 1986, Duke became a Business Representative for the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council #35 until 2005 when he was appointed to the position of Assistant Director of Servicing. Duke has also contributed to the improvement of workers' rights as a Delegate to the International Painters and Allied Trades at their National Convention as well as being a Trustee in the Pension, Annuity, Health and Apprenticeship funds program.

Despite his various accomplishments, the title that Duke has always been most proud of and which he cherishes most, is the title of a proud and loving husband. Duke has had the enormous pleasure and tremendous good fortune to be married to his wife Patti for over 43 years.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to join with Joseph "Duke" Carter's family, friends and brothers and sisters of labor to thank him for over 40 years of remarkable service to the American Labor Movement. I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating Duke's distinguished career and wishing him good health and God's blessing in all his future endeavors.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 20, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend your work on the Continuing Resolution. Republicans set up a colossal budget failure and created the worst budget mess since the government shut down in 1996. I know you had no choice but to attempt to make lemonade out of the lemons that were left for us.

With this behind us, we will be able to work together to really meet America's needs. While I am happy that this legislation included increases in the maximum Pell grant, veterans' health care, funding for Community Health Centers, and the NIH, there are some areas that remain in critical need of additional funding. Much has been neglected over the last few years by the Republicans and will require further attention this Congress. In fact, I could stand here all night discussing the specifics. Don't worry, Mr. Speaker, instead I will focus on one area in particular, teacher incentive grants.

Chicago Public Schools, in collaboration with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET), were awarded a 5-year grant under the Teacher Incentive Fund in FY 2006. Chicago Public Schools were one of 16 grantees awarded funding under the new TIF program to develop a program for performance-based teacher pay, specifically targeting high-need schools. This particular grant award totals \$27,336,693 over 5 years.

The first year of funding for the Chicago award totals \$131,273. The second year continuation grant is proposed at \$4,055,600. This funding is scheduled to be awarded in the fall of 2007 and I would like to make certain that Chicago's schools receive this funding. I am sure that we will be able to work together in the coming months to ensure that this is the case.

#### TRIBUTE TO DENVER EAST HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Denver's East High School for winning the "We the People" state competition on December 13, 2006. These students will represent Colorado in the national finals, held in Washington, DC on April 28–30, 2007.

This fantastic program seeks to develop the civic understanding of our nation's elementary, middle, and high school students. Each year competitions are held across the country, with students demonstrating their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.

After months of preparation, the students of East will represent the State of Colorado at the national competition, "testify" before a panel of judges, and display their knowledge of American government and history.

I am so proud to have these students representing the First Congressional District and the entire state of Colorado. I wish them luck in the national finals, and look forward to welcoming them to Washington.

I want to personally recognize the participating students, including Caitlin Bell, Tucker Larson, Tessa Caudle, Sean McCarthy, Mats Engdahl, Manon Scales, Dan Aschkinasi, Matt Valeta, Catie Gliwa, Brian McQuinn, Katrina Sondermann, Tyler Castle, Davis Wert, Kaitlyn Randol, Mackenzie Gilchrist, Carlo Davis, Morgan Hall, Tim Hambidge, Emery Donovan, Rachel Banks, Rye Finegan, Charlie Fine, Michelle Murphy, Taylor Jones, Alexa Morrill, Max Viski-Hanka, Sam Keene, and Marissa Latta. Additionally, I would like to congratulate Kathy Callum, the principal of East, teacher Susan McHugh, and Loyal Darr, who coordinates the "We the People" program in Denver and is a tireless advocate for civic education.

#### HIRE A VETERAN WEEK

SPEECH OF

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 5, expressing Congressional support for "Hire-A-Veteran Week," and encouraging the President to issue a proclamation calling upon employers to increase employment of men and women who have served honorably in the U.S. Armed Services.

As a U.S. Army veteran and a longtime member of the House Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs Committees, I know of the challenges awaiting our service members when transitioning from military service to the civilian workforce. While this resolution will not solve the problems of unemployment within the veterans community, it is a strong message that we as members of Congress should send to anyone in a position to hire qualified veterans.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, younger veterans have a significantly higher unemployment rate than those of the general population in the same age range. Madam Speaker, I find this situation unacceptable and I believe most Americans would agree that our country should do more to assist these veterans in transitioning from active duty to the civilian workforce.

Furthermore, as a strong advocate of hiring qualified veterans, I practice what I preach. Having hired military veterans in both my El Paso, Texas and Washington, D.C. offices, I know of the exceptional training the Armed Forces provides our service members, and wholeheartedly encourage any employer to consider hiring those veterans who have served our country.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in supporting our Nation's veterans by voting in favor of H. Con. Res. 5.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. NORWOOD. Madam Speaker, had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 58, I would have voted "yes." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 59, I would have voted "yes." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 60, I would have voted "yes." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 61, I would have voted "yes." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 62, I would have voted "yes." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 63, I would have voted "no." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 64, I would have voted "yes." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 65, I would have voted "yes." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 66, I would have voted "no." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 67, I would have voted "no." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 68, I would have voted "no." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 69, I would have voted "no." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 70, I would have voted "no." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 71, I would have voted "yes." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 72, I would have voted "no." Had I been present on Rollcall Vote No. 73, I would have voted "yes."

#### NATIONAL INTEREST ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CORRIDOR CLARIFICATION ACT

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I am introducing legislation today to clarify provisions in Section 1221 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 regarding the designation of National Interest Energy Transmission Corridors (NIETC).

As the Department of Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) begin implementation of Section 1221, concerns have arisen in my state and in other states about this section of the new law. Specifically, those concerns include how the designation of these corridors could work to usurp the state decisionmaking process, override merit-based decisions by state siting authorities, destroy protected lands, ignore alternative energy solutions, and fail to provide compensation for landowners adjacent to new transmission lines. My legislation attempts to clarify Section 1221 to ensure that the necessity of building interstate energy transmission lines is balanced with other important national interests.

Building transmission lines that use 200-foot rights-of-way and rise up to 270 feet into the air have a tremendous and permanent impact on the surrounding landscape and property values. Patterning the electric transmission line process after current gas line siting regulations does not take into consideration the far reaching visual impact of power lines. Above ground facilities for gas lines are generally a maximum of eight feet high, therefore the viewshed affected is minimal. But power lines



towering over 100 feet can be seen for miles around. It is traditionally understood that local and state governments are best equipped to properly consider and evaluate land use needs for local communities. Federal siting processes for transmission lines must be carefully tailored to allow greater protections to both local landowners and to the state decisionmaking process.

Currently, Section 1221 provides that state regulatory authorities can have their jurisdiction to approve or disapprove an application for new transmission lines in the state usurped by the federal government after one year in the application process. Additionally, the FERC can simply override disapproval by the state regardless of how sound the rationale for disapproval might have been. This is unacceptable.

Under my legislation, if the state entity denies an application, any subsequent application to FERC would first have to prove that the state decision was arbitrary and capricious. Furthermore, if the state goes beyond a year to act, the applicant must show that the state had no valid reason for delaying action.

Additionally, in order to ensure that lands that have been protected by the federal or state governments through conservation easements, ownership and similar preservation initiatives will not be impacted, the legislation prohibits these lands from being included in a NIETC and requires that the Department of Energy consider the national interests in protecting these resources.

I fully support investment in alternative energy sources and conservation, yet current law requires no assessment of alternative energy solutions before action is taken to designate a NIETC. My legislation would require the Department of Energy to consider all energy use alternatives to building new transmission lines before designating a NIETC. Furthermore, the Department of Energy will be required to solicit public comments on the analysis.

Finally, under current law landowners are compensated only for the portion of their property actually taken for a NIETC right-of-way. There is no compensation for any reduction in the value of the remainder of a landowner's property or for adjacent landowners whose property is devalued. This legislation would allow all landowners who are able to prove a 10 percent diminution in property value because of the construction of the transmission lines a cause of action to recover those damages from the energy company. The fact is that transmission lines that tower 270 feet into the air have an impact far beyond the footprint required for construction and maintenance and this must be acknowledged.

Madam Speaker, I invite our colleagues to join with me in support of this legislation.

#### REHABILITATED, NONVIOLENT OFFENDERS NEED A SECOND CHANCE

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention the devastating impact of imprisonment on the lives of rehabilitated ex-offenders and to enter into the

RECORD an opinion editorial in the New York Times entitled, "Closing the Revolving Door."

Last week I introduced the Second Chance Act which would provide for the expungement of criminal records of certain non-violent offenders who have paid their debts to society. This "second chance" would only apply to individuals who have clearly demonstrated their commitment to turning themselves into industrious members of our communities.

It is preposterous that many states have often been forced to choose between building new prisons or new schools, because of the federal mandatory minimum sentencing laws. Worse still, the country has created a growing felon caste, now more than 16 million strong and growing, of felons and ex-felons, who are often driven back to prison by policies that make it impossible for them to find jobs, housing or education.

The U.S. Sentencing Commission and the Department of Justice have both concluded that mandatory sentencing fails to deter crime. Furthermore, mandatory minimums have worsened racial and gender disparities and have contributed greatly toward prison overcrowding. Mandatory minimum sentencing is costly and unjust. Mandatory sentencing does not eliminate sentencing disparities; instead it shifts decision-making authority from judges to prosecutors, who operate without accountability. Mandatory minimums fail to punish high-level dealers. Finally, mandatory sentences are responsible for sending record numbers of women and people of color to prison.

I urge your support for H.R. 623, the "Second Chance for Ex-Offenders Act of 2007," which would provide for the expungement of criminal records of certain non-violent offenders who have paid their debts to society.

[From the New York Times]

#### CLOSING THE REVOLVING DOOR

The United States is paying a heavy price for the mandatory sentencing fad that swept the country 30 years ago. After a tenfold increase in the nation's prison population—and a corrections price tag that exceeds \$60 billion a year—the states have often been forced to choose between building new prisons or new schools. Worse still, the country has created a growing felon caste, now more than 16 million strong, of felons and ex-felons, who are often driven back to prison by policies that make it impossible for them to find jobs, housing or education.

Congress could begin to address this problem by passing the Second Chance Act, which would offer support services for people who are leaving prison. But it would take more than one new law to undo 30 years of damage:

Researchers have shown that inmates who earn college degrees tend to find jobs and stay out of jail once released. Congress needs to revoke laws that bar inmates from receiving Pell grants and that bar some students with drug convictions from getting other support. Following Washington's lead, the states have destroyed prison education programs that had long since proved their worth.

People who leave prison without jobs or places to live are unlikely to stay out of jail. Congress should repeal the lifetime ban on providing temporary welfare benefits to people with felony drug convictions. The federal government should strengthen tax credit and bonding programs that encourage employers to hire people with criminal records. States need to stop barring ex-offenders from jobs because of unrelated crimes—or arrests in

the distant past that never led to convictions.

Congress should deny a request from the F.B.I. to begin including juvenile arrests that never led to convictions (and offenses like drunkenness or vagrancy) in the millions of rap sheets sent to employers. That would transform single indiscretions into lifetime stigmas.

Curbing recidivism will also require doing a lot more to provide help and medication for the one out of every six inmates who suffer mental illness.

The only real way to reduce the inmate population—and the felon class—is to ensure that imprisonment is a method of last resort. That means abandoning the mandatory sentencing laws that have filled prisons to bursting with nonviolent offenders who are doomed to remain trapped at the very margins of society.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my family I was unable to travel to Washington, DC, and missed votes in the House of Representatives on January 29, 30, and 31. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye" on:

1. H.R. 521, 2. H.R. 49, 3. H.R. 335, 4. H. Res. 70, 5. H. Res. 82, 6. H. Res. 24, 7. H. Con. Res. 20, 8. H. Res. 59, 9. H. Con. Res. 34, 10. H. Con. Res. 5, 11. H. Res. 90, 12. H. Res. 24, 13. H. Res. 116, and 14. H.J. Res. 20.

#### MARITIME POLLUTION PREVENTION ACT OF 2007

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today, together with the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, Mr. CUMMINGS, to introduce the "Maritime Pollution Prevention Act of 2007".

For many years, the International Maritime Organization, an entity of the United Nations, has been developing international standards to prevent pollution from ships that ply the world's oceans. The international convention they developed is called the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, The United States has implemented these environmental laws by enacting and amending the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS).

On May 19, 2005, Annex VI of that Convention came into force internationally. Annex VI limits the discharge of nitrogen oxides from large marine diesel engines, governs the sulfur content of marine diesel fuel, prohibits the emission of ozone-depleting substances, regulates the emission of volatile organic compounds during the transfer of cargoes between tankers and terminals, sets standards for shipboard incinerators and fuel oil quality, and establishes requirements for platforms and drilling rigs at sea.

This bill is the necessary implementing legislation for Annex VI of that Convention. This legislation will provide the Coast Guard and the Environmental Protection Agency the authority that they need to develop U.S. standards and enforce these requirements on the thousands of U.S.- and foreign-flag vessels that enter the United States each year from overseas.

Everyone here recognizes the challenge that the world faces in combating global climate change. We must pursue all avenues in the effort to turn around the rising temperatures on this planet. I am pleased that the International Maritime Organization stepped up to the plate and developed amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships to regulate air pollution from ships.

Last year, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure favorably reported H.R. 5811, the MARPOL Annex VI Implementation Act of 2006. This bill was subsequently added as an amendment to H.R. 5681, the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2006, and passed the House on October 28, 2006.

The bill that Mr. CUMMINGS and I introduce today is very similar to H.R. 5811. Pursuant to requests by the Administration, the bill allows the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the Coast Guard to enforce the standards. The Coast Guard acknowledges that the EPA has far more experience than it does on air quality emission standards. However, it is important for the EPA to develop the standards jointly with Coast Guard because of the Coast Guard's expertise regarding vessel safety issues.

I am hopeful that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will report this bill to the House very quickly and that the House will have an opportunity to consider the bill in the coming weeks.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our new Chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, Mr. CUMMINGS, for his contributions in developing this bill.

I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting the Maritime Pollution Prevention Act of 2007.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained on Wednesday, January 24, 2007, and missed rollcall no. 56. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PROCUREMENT REFORM ACT OF 2007

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER P. CARNEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. CARNEY. Madam Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security purchases \$10 billion worth of goods and services per year. Un-

fortunately, the Department's procurement process is rife with problems that need to be addressed. Whether buying ice to aid disaster victims or cameras and sensors to secure our borders, the Department has struggled. The bill I am introducing today is a first step toward addressing some of the Department's most pressing needs in this area. It is an outgrowth of the excellent bi-partisan work spearheaded during the last Congress by then-Chairman MIKE ROGERS of Alabama and then-Ranking Member KENDRICK MEEK in the Subcommittee on Management, Integration, and Oversight of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Specifically, this bill requires regular procurement training for the Department's acquisition employees and the development of courses for both new and experienced employees. To assist the Chief Procurement Officer in developing policies and curriculum for the training, it establishes a "Council on Procurement Training" made up of eight component-level chief procurement officers in the Department. In order to ensure that training occurs as required, the Chief Procurement Officer is required annually to submit a report on training activities to the Secretary.

Selection of able and responsible contractors is, of course, crucial to any procurement success. To that end, this bill puts new requirements on the Department to review the past performance of all offerors seeking contracts. And to ensure that all contractors are on an equal playing field, it requires offerors to provide information concerning any role the offeror or its employees played in developing a contract solicitation or similar document. Further, if an offeror is delinquent or in default on any payment of tax, the bill requires offerors to disclose this information.

The bill also directly addresses one area that requires particular attention, the use of purchase cards. A Government Accountability Office (GAO) review released this past July revealed a disturbing lack of guidance and controls over their use. It highlighted potential incidents of fraud, waste, and abuse that could run into the millions of dollars. To address this problem, the bill directs the Department to develop and quickly disseminate Department-wide guidance concerning the use of such cards. Finally, the bill directs the GAO to issue a report on the contracting processes of the Department within six months of enactment.

This bill will not solve all of the problems of the Department's procurement operations. It will, however, start the process of reform that is badly needed.

#### MEASURE Y: IRAQ WAR ADVISORY

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in agreement with the wishes of 19,290 voters in Mendocino County, California concerning the United States military engagement in Iraq.

On November 8, 2006, Measure Y: Iraq War Advisory was on the ballot in Mendocino County. The measure asked the following: Should the United States end the military occupation of Iraq and bring the troops home now? It passed by 67.17 percent of the vote.

Madam Speaker, the voters who approved Measure Y know what has been evident for some time—we need to begin redeployment of the United States military forces out of Iraq. As of today, 3,056 brave American servicemen and women have been killed in Iraq and over 23,000 have been wounded. We must redeploy our troops as quickly and safely as possible while putting an emphasis on diplomacy and shifting security responsibilities to the Iraqi people.

The President has already spent close to half a trillion dollars on war spending and he has called for more troops and more money, but the results of our efforts have been to endanger American lives, and worsen living conditions for Iraqis. It is time to bring our troops home. The will of the American people is indisputable. They want a swift end to the U.S. involvement in Iraq.

Madam Speaker, in accordance with the wish of my constituents, I submit this advisory into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### SUPPORT FOR THE EDUCATE ACT

#### HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Ms. HOOLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support the EDUCATE Act that Congressman VAN HOLLEN introduced today on behalf of myself and Congressman MIKE FERGUSON. I believe that this bill is one of the most important pieces of legislation that will be introduced in this chamber this year because it speaks to the Federal Government keeping a promise to children.

When Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1975, we made a commitment to our country's special education students. By providing only half of the promised funding in recent years, the Federal Government has passed on another unfunded mandate to States and local school districts and failed to honor our promise that students with special education needs deserve the best education possible.

Despite the fact that current law requires the Federal Government to match State IDEA costs at 40 percent, the President's budget in recent years has included funding for less than half of the Federal Government's IDEA obligation. Budgeting shortfalls at the federal level and the rising cost of special education have forced local school districts to assume a larger percentage of the funding burden. As a result, they have had to seek out alternative funding sources such as higher taxes or diverting monies from other educational initiatives in order to comply with IDEA requirements.

Now I know that many of my colleagues have been angered with the funding that IDEA has received in the past few years, and a few of them have introduced their own legislation to correct this funding shortfall. But I believe that the EDUCATE Act is the most fiscally responsible funding solution that has been offered. In the current fiscal climate and with the PAYGO requirements that have been put in place, this legislation offers the most responsible means of achieving our goals. It will do no good if we succeed in providing these children with a quality education and then leave them a country in financial ruin.



I am proud to have been involved in the crafting of this legislation and I hope that my colleagues will support it.

TRIBUTE TO ISRAEL "IZZIE"  
BARLAS

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Israel "Izzie" Barlas who passed away on January 23, 2007. Izzie led a long and full life, married for 59 years to Helene, raising his son Lance, and cherishing his two grandsons.

The youngest of six children born to Russian immigrants Max and Esther Barlas, Izzie was raised in Petaluma, California and attended Santa Rosa Junior College. He was a world traveler, but always came home to Petaluma the "best place to live, work and raise a family".

Izzie and his two brothers co-owned Barlas Feeds, founded by their father. The feed and livestock store began by supplying to local farmers, but the business grew to include shipments as far away as the South Pacific. Those business interests developed from Izzie's tour of duty as a U.S. Marine stationed in the South Pacific during World War II.

The years spent with the Marine Corp held a sense of pride for Izzie. He took part in four major battles: Guam, Bougainville, Guadalcanal, and Iwo Jima. He was present at the flag raising on Iwo Jima, a defining moment of the Pacific battles, captured on film and made into a Marine Corps War Memorial in Washington, DC.

Izzie became active in politics in the 1950s when the state legislature considered a bill requiring all chickens be sold with the head and feet off and eviscerated. The Jewish farmers in Petaluma, many of whom were customers of Barlas Feeds, were selling their chickens "New York dressed" (with the head and feet on and not eviscerated). To oppose the bill, Izzie drove carloads of farmers to meet with committee members. Each member was given a roaster and asked to cook and eat it before deciding it was not healthy. An amendment passed to allow "New York Dressed" chickens. Thus began his career as a poultry industry lobbyist.

Not satisfied with only meeting with elected officials, Izzie decided to make change from within. He ran and was successfully elected to the local Democratic Central Committee, founded the Petaluma Democratic Club, and became a delegate to the California Democratic Council. In 2004, the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee honored him as the Democrat of the Year. He also became active with the Congress of Democratic Farmers, which led to his relationship with President John Kennedy and an appointment to the National Agricultural Advisory Committee. He fondly recalled visits to the White House pressroom denying reporters his identity, leaving them wondering who he was and his importance.

Madam Speaker, it is with sadness that I honor Israel "Izzie" Barlas, who fought and worked for his country. He touched many lives in his 84 years as a role model and inspiration as a mover and shaker.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION HONORING THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution which recognizes the contributions of the architectural profession during National Architecture Week. The architectural profession has made unique contributions to the history, texture, and quality of life in the United States. Through advances in building technology and design innovation, architects are vital to the creation of communities which are safe, livable and sustainable.

This year is the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the American Institute of Architects, which signifies the founding of the organized architectural profession. This bill will honor and celebrate the work of the approximately 281,000 individuals in the United States who create the structures we cherish and towns we treasure. The bill additionally requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to recognize and celebrate National Architecture Week beginning April 8th.

THE PREVENTION FIRST ACT

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, today, I am again proud to introduce the Prevention First Act. By emphasizing prevention first, my bill will help protect women's reproductive health, reduce unintended pregnancies, decrease the spread of STDs, and give women the tools they need to make the best decisions possible for themselves. The Prevention First Act will help to achieve these goals by providing comprehensive access to all forms of contraception and sex education.

Throughout the years, conservative leaders have sought to limit women's rights and freedoms by imposing stricter penalties on doctors who help women faced with an unintended pregnancy. At the same time, these leaders have done very little to ensure that millions of unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are prevented in the first place. If they are opposed to abortion, if they support women's health, and if they believe that the right to choose when to start a family should apply to all women, no matter their economic or social situation, then they should be in favor of this bill.

It has been more than 40 years since the Supreme Court said women had the right to access contraception. This decision was revolutionary, for the first time allowing women to choose when to become pregnant and how many children to have. Access to contraception greatly enhanced women's equality in American Society.

It also helps to ameliorate economic disparities among women. The social and economic realities surrounding contraception could not be starker. Many poor and low-income women cannot afford to purchase contraceptive serv-

ices and supplies on their own. About 1 in 5 women of reproductive age were uninsured in 2003, and that proportion has increased by 10% since 2001. Half of all women who are sexually active, but do not want to get pregnant, need publicly funded services to help them access public health programs like Medicaid and Title X, the national family planning program. These programs provide high-quality family planning services and other preventive health care, such as pap smears, to underinsured or uninsured individuals who may otherwise lack access to health care and alternative options for birth control. What's more, each year, publicly funded family planning services help women to prevent an estimated one million unplanned pregnancies and 630,000 abortions. Despite the obvious benefits they bring, these programs are currently struggling to meet the growing demand for subsidized family planning services without corresponding increases in funding. The Prevention First Act authorizes funding for Title X clinics and strengthens states' coverage of Medicaid family planning services.

Contraception is, of course, more than a means of fighting economic inequalities. It also provides a way to save scarce public health dollars. For every \$1 spent on providing family planning services, an estimated \$3.80 is saved in Medicaid expenditures for pregnancy-related and newborn care.

And what's more, improved access to emergency contraception (EC) has been proven to significantly reduce the staggering rates of unintended pregnancy and, as a result, abortion. EC prevents pregnancy after unprotected sex or a contraceptive failure. The Alan Guttmacher Institute estimates that increased use of EC accounted for up to 43 percent of the total decline in abortion rates between 1994 and 2000. In addition, EC is often the only contraceptive option for the 300,000 women who are reported to be raped each year. Unfortunately, even with the recent FDA decision to allow EC to be sold over-the-counter to women 18 years of age and over, many women do not know about EC and many still face insurmountable barriers in accessing this important product. The Prevention First Act mandates that the Secretary of Health and Human Services implement an education campaign about EC and requires that hospitals receiving federal funds provide victims of sexual assault with information and access to EC.

Despite the fact that contraceptives have a proven track record of enhancing the health of women and children, preventing unintended pregnancy, and reducing the need for abortion, far too many insurance policies do not cover them. While most employment-related insurance policies in the United States cover prescription drugs in general, many do not include equitable coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices. Although 21 states now have laws in place requiring insurers to provide contraceptive coverage if they cover other prescription drugs, 29 states still have no corresponding law on the books. Out of pocket expenses for contraception can be costly. Women of reproductive age currently spend 68 percent more in out-of-pocket health care costs than men, much of which is due to reproductive health-related supplies and services.

The Prevention First Act requires that private health plans to cover FDA-approved prescription contraceptives and related medical services.

Madam Speaker, it is critical in any discussion of reproductive rights to devote time to teenagers, who face the consequences of so many of these issues more acutely than other age groups. Teens face additional barriers regarding access to services and information. Sixty percent of teens have sex before graduating high school. Those who receive comprehensive sexuality education that includes discussion of contraception as well as abstinence are more likely than those who receive abstinence-only messages to delay sex, to have fewer partners, and to use contraceptives when they do become sexually active. Efforts by conservatives to restrict access to family planning services and promote abstinence-only education programs—which are prohibited from discussing the benefits of contraception—actually jeopardize adolescent health and run counter to the views of many mainstream medical groups.

Nearly 50 percent of new cases of STDs occur among people ages 15 to 24, even though this age bracket makes up just a quarter of the sexually active population. Clearly, teens have the most to lose when faced with an unintended pregnancy or an STD infection.

Moreover, 1 in 3 girls becomes pregnant before the age of 20, and 80 percent of these pregnancies are unintended. Teen mothers are less likely to complete high school. Children of teenage mothers have lower birth weights, are more likely to perform poorly in school, and are at greater risk of abuse and neglect. Improving access to contraceptive services and information does not cause non-sexually active teens to start having sex. Instead, teens need information to help them both postpone sexual activity and to protect themselves if they do become sexually active. A November 2006 study of declining pregnancy rates among teens concluded that the reduction in teen pregnancy between 1995 and 2002 is primarily the result of increased use of contraceptives.

The Prevention First Act provides funding to public and private entities to establish or expand their teenage pregnancy prevention programs. This bill also provides for comprehensive, medically accurate sex education programs that teach young people about abstinence, health, and contraceptives. Moreover, this bill requires federally funded programs that provide information on the use of contraceptives to ensure that the information is medically accurate and includes health benefits and failure rates.

Madam Speaker, virtually everyone can agree that reducing unintended pregnancies, lowering STD infection rates, and promoting the health of all women and their children, regardless of their economic or social situation, are important public health goals. It should come as no surprise that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention included family planning in their published list of the "Ten Great Public Health Achievements in the 20th Century." My bill, the Prevention First Act, will improve access to family planning services for women in need throughout America, and will go a long way toward fulfilling the promise of this important public health achievement.

Madam Speaker, I urge every Member to stand with the women of our country and to support this important bill.

## INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 800, THE EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, today, I am pleased to be joining 230 of my colleagues in introducing H.R. 800, the Employee Free Choice Act. The Employee Free Choice Act is a bipartisan bill designed to provide workers with a fair opportunity to bargain with employers for better wages, benefits and working conditions.

In recent years, despite a growing economy, the middle class has been squeezed. Corporate profits and executive compensation have skyrocketed, but the middle class has seen their wages stagnate, while the costs for basic needs like healthcare, education, food, energy and housing continue to increase. Globalization and misguided government policies have contributed to a growing income disparity and less economic security for middle class families.

One way to help the middle class is to provide them with a fair opportunity to organize and join unions, so they can have a say in what goes on in the workplace. Workers who belong to unions earn 30 percent more than nonunion workers. In addition, they are 62 percent more likely to have employer-provided health coverage and four times more likely to have pensions.

The current process for forming unions is badly broken and so skewed in favor of those who oppose unions, that workers must literally risk their jobs in order form a union. Although it is illegal, one quarter of employers facing an organizing drive have been found to fire at least one worker who supports a union. In fact, employees who are active union supporters have a one-in-five chance of being fired for legal union activities. Sadly, many employers resort to spying, threats, intimidation, harassment and other illegal activity in their campaigns to oppose unions. The penalty for illegal activity, including firing workers for engaging in protected activity, is so weak that it does little to deter law breakers.

Even when employers don't break the law, the process itself stacks the deck against union supporters. The employer has all the power; they control the information workers can receive, can force workers to attend anti-union meetings during work hours, can force workers to meet with supervisors who deliver anti-union messages, and can even imply that the business will close if the union wins. Union supporters' access to employees, on the other hand, is heavily restricted.

The Employee Free Choice Act would add some fairness to the system by: (1) allowing a majority of employees the opportunity to select to be represented by a union by expressing their decision through the signing of authorization cards; (2) provide for mediation and arbitration when workers and employers cannot agree on a first contract; and (3) increase penalties against employers who threaten, intimidate or fire workers for engaging in protected activity.

I urge all my colleagues to join in this effort to provide working people with a real opportunity to bargain for better wages and benefits.

TO REQUIRE THAT ALL SHIPS WITH BALLAST WATER TANKS, INCLUDING VESSELS THAT ARE NOT CARRYING BALLAST WATER, TO CARRY OUT THE EXCHANGE OF BALLAST WATER OR ALTERNATIVE BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT METHODS PRIOR TO ENTRY INTO ANY PORT WITHIN THE GREAT LAKES

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today I introduced a bill to require all vessels, including those with no ballast water on board, NOBOBs, to undergo ballast water exchange before entering the Great Lakes.

Invasive species pose a dangerous threat to the Great Lakes. These creatures can cause irreparable ecological and economic damage to a variety of locations and industries. In 2005, economic losses were estimated at an annual \$5 billion to the region. More than 160 non-native species have already invaded the Great Lakes ecosystem. As the largest source of our Nation's fresh water, the Great Lakes must be protected from further introduction of invasives.

One method by which these species enter the Great Lakes is through ballast water tanks. Current law requires ships carrying ballast water to undergo ballast water exchange to flush out invasive species before entering the Great Lakes from another port. However, 90 percent of all ships entering the Great Lakes have no ballast water on board. These NOBOBs are not subject to the same ballast water exchange laws, even though they still have ballast tanks. Invasive species often survive in the sediment at the bottom of these tanks. When these ships operate in the Great Lakes, they may add and then pump out new ballast water before leaving. This mixes with residual ballast water and sediments, and provides an unregulated pathway for the introduction of new invasive species when the ballast water is released.

In other words, the contamination begins.

We must not leave 90 percent of ships entering the Great Lakes untreated. This bipartisan legislation requires all ships with ballast tanks, including NOBOBs, to undergo ballast water exchange. In addition, the bill commissions a study of the effectiveness and environmental soundness of other ballast treatment options. The language fixes a current problem and works towards an even stronger solution for the future.

Madam Speaker, this legislation, while small, has enormous consequences for the health and safety of one of our national treasures. I am proud to introduce this ballast water legislation to significantly reduce the infiltration of invasive species into the Great Lakes.

STAFF SERGEANT RICHWELL  
ARZADON DORIA—A TRUE HERO

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, United States Army Staff Sergeant Richwell Arzadon Doria

was killed by small-arms fire during the battle with the insurgents in Iraq on November 7, 2006.

He was born on December 6, 1980 in Dagupan City, Philippines. He immigrated to the United States of America in 1991 and graduated from Samuel Morse High School in San Diego, California in 2000. He enlisted in the United States Army and completed the Basic and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benning, Georgia in 2001. He was naturalized as an American citizen in 2004.

Staff Sergeant Doria was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He reported to the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment and was assigned to Alpha Company. He participated in training exercises at the National Training Center, Pohakuloa Training Area, and Operation North Wind in Japan. In 2004, he deployed with the Cacti Battalion in support of the Operation Enduring Freedom V in Afghanistan and also served with the Cacti Battalion in Operation Iraqi Freedom V. While in Alpha Company, he served as a rifleman, M203 gunner, machine gun operator, team leader, and as a squad leader.

SSG Doria was posthumously awarded the Army Commendation Medal with "V" device for valor. On November 1, 2006, his action saved the lives of his fellow soldiers following an insurgents attack. He was also posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, the fourth highest U.S. military award for gallantry in action and the Purple Heart for his courageous actions on November 7, 2006, when he made the ultimate sacrifice while covering for his fellow soldiers during an air assault and rescue mission in Iraq.

He is survived by his wife, Jasmine; daughter, Jada; parents, Fred and Rose; sister, Rowena; aunts, Zenaida and Minda, and grandfather/adopted father, Benito Doria. His last wish to be buried at the Eternal Gardens Memorial Park in Dagupan City, Philippines was fulfilled, complete with full military honors, 21-gun salute, and the American flag was presented to the grieving Doria family by BG Simeon G. Trombitas, who is the Commander of the U.S. Army's Special Operations Command in South Korea.

U.S. Army SSG Richwell Arzadon Doria is a true hero and will forever remain in our hearts and memories for his bravery, dedication to duty, and service to the United States of America.

HONORING ROSEANNA WABEL  
McDERMOTT (1909–2007)

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, on behalf of loving family and friends, I enter into the RECORD our memory of Roseanna Wabel McDermott, born in Streator, Illinois, who died peacefully on January 29, 2007, at Columbia Lutheran Home in Seattle. We will miss her gentle spirit and twinkling eye.

Roseanna and her husband, Mac, came to the great Northwest in 1971. Early in their marriage, they had founded a church in their garage in the Chicago suburbs. Throughout her life, Roseanna continued to live her Chris-

tian faith of love, charity and compassion. She fundamentally rejected racism and unjust war.

A true mid-Westerner and a bride of the Depression, Roseanna had sizeable grit and an entrepreneur's resourcefulness. She could make something out of nothing, and for her everything had at least one more use before it went into the trash. She re-wired lamps, rejuvenated Charlie Brown Christmas trees with a bit of careful grafting, and mended furniture. She was a saver—of string, rubber bands, and plastic twist ties. And, she showed us there was always hope for a dying plant, a broken chair, or a difficult personality.

As a consummate gardener, Roseanna fed her family from her backyard and taught her offspring the wonders of composting, the satisfaction of baking and the skill of darning. She was a crack gin rummy player (despite her misgivings about the danger of cards), and she loved the interaction and challenge of a good game of Scrabble. She enjoyed all things northwest—Dungeness crab, Pacific oysters and the Seattle Mariners.

Roseanna possessed a wide curiosity and believed in the power of education. A Streator High School graduate, yet financially unable to go to college herself, she sacrificed for the education of her children and served as their constant reminder of the benefits of hard work and life-long learning.

Roseanna's loving presence and beautiful smile were dwarfed only by her huge heart and unwavering belief in the goodness of all. She is preceded in death by her husband of 68 years, William Morrell (Mac), and survived by her children Jim, John, Lois, Mark; her grandchildren Katherine, Jim and Nicholas; and, her great grandchildren Kendall and Lachlan.

In tribute to their loving care of Roseanna, donations may be sent to Columbia Lutheran Home ([columbialutheranhome.com](http://columbialutheranhome.com)) 4700 Phinney Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103. Please join in celebration of this beloved woman on February 10th at University Congregational United Church of Christ at 2 p.m. (4515 16th Ave NE, Seattle).

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained on Wednesday, January 31, 2007, and missed rollcall No. 68. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 798, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
HEADQUARTERS SUN WALL PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, today I introduce a bill to direct the Administrator of General Services to install a sun wall photovoltaic system, known as the "Solar Net" on the headquarters building of the Department of

Energy. There is no more appropriate or symbolic federal building with which to demonstrate the power and promise of photovoltaics than the Department of Energy headquarters building, known as the Forrestal Building, located in Washington, DC.

Our energy needs continue to increase, but as a nation we have not done enough to try to meet these needs with new technologies and alternative fuels. As a result, our dependence on fossil fuels—and foreign oil in particular—continues unabated.

As the nation's largest single energy consumer, the Federal Government is in a unique position to promote energy conservation and efficiency, particularly in the operation of Federal buildings. By applying the principles of sustainable, green design, agencies have the ability to reduce energy usage, reduce life-cycle costs, and reduce environmental impacts in the construction and operation of federal facilities.

A photovoltaic system turns light energy into electricity. Photovoltaics reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and offer distinct advantages over diesel generators and primary batteries. These systems are highly efficient panels and have no moving parts, so the need for maintenance is virtually non-existent. Photovoltaics have tremendous potential. As an example, estimates have shown that the electricity needs of the entire U.S. could be met by installing photovoltaic panels in a 100-mile by 100-mile area in the Southwest.

The Federal Government owns or leases approximately 500,000 buildings. According to U.S. Department of Energy estimates, in FY 2005, the cost of energy consumption by Federal agencies totaled \$14.5 billion—more than \$5.5 billion of which was spent on buildings and facilities. The General Services Administration, through its Public Building Service, manages 218.9 million square feet of owned office space and 168.8 million square feet of leased space. Imagine the benefits if this space utilized photovoltaics and solar power.

More than 25 Federal buildings nationwide already utilize photovoltaics in some capacity. These projects have demonstrated that we have the technology and ability to provide electricity for the Federal Government office buildings with photovoltaic rays. We have the ability to keep our public buildings running on clean and quiet sources of energy, and still produce extra electricity to put back into the power grid.

The bill I introduce today addresses only one project, but it is a necessary and important step in the overall effort to increase energy efficiency in public buildings. Located in our Nation's capital, the Solar Net project will serve as a model for the entire country, as the largest building-integrated solar energy system on any federal building in the country. The design for the sun wall project was selected in 2000 after an open competition. It is an attractive and energy-efficient design that can generate a maximum of 200 kW of electricity and includes a solar thermal installation for hot water and hot air.

A similar provision to this bill was enacted as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109–58). While the Energy Policy Act authorized funding for fiscal year 2006, no funding was appropriated for that year. Today, this bill specifically sets aside federal building repair and alteration funding for construction of the sun wall project in fiscal year 2007.

The time is long overdue for the Federal Government to lead in the development and promotion of energy-efficient technologies and alternative and renewable fuels. The plans are ready to go. The needs and the potential impacts on our nation's energy use are great. All that is left is to do is to provide the funding needed to purchase and install the proper equipment. This bill does just that.

I thank Mr. MICA, Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Ms. NORTON, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, for joining me on this critical, bipartisan initiative. I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting H.R. 798.

RECOGNIZING THE CELEBRATION  
OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
REV. ZAIDAN'S PRIESTHOOD AND  
THE LIFE OF JOHN MILAD  
NISSER

**HON. RAY LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, as a Lebanese American, I rise here today to recognize the celebration of St. Maron Feast Day on February 11, 2007, by The Parish of Our Lady of Mount Lebanon in Los Angeles. They are planning a grand banquet at the Biltmore Hotel for this occasion and are honoring the 20th anniversary of the priesthood of Father Abdallah Zaidan, their pastor, and John Milad Nisser, who is receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Born in Kseibe, Lebanon, Rev. Zaidan joined the Congregation of Maronite Lebanese Missionaries and earned his Master's degrees at St. John's University in New York. He entered Novitiate in September 1980 and was ordained in July 1986. Father Abdallah E. Zaidan received his Master's in Theology in 1986, his Master's in Philosophy in 1987, and his Master's in Education in 1990.

Beginning his service in Lebanon as a Chaplain and teacher, Rev. Zaidan immigrated to the United States in 1988. He became Assistant Rector at Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral in Brooklyn, and in January 1990, became Pastor of St. George Maronite Catholic Church in San Antonio. Beginning in August 1992, Father Zaidan became Regional Superior of Maronite Lebanese Missionaries in the United States and is currently the Rector of Our Lady of Mt. Lebanon-St. Peter Cathedral in Los Angeles, and Protopresbyter for the Southwest and Northwest Regions of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles, as well as several other important positions within the church and the community. I join the parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Lebanon to congratulate Rev. Zaidan for his 20 years of wonderful service.

Furthermore, I would also like to honor John Milad Nisser who will be presented the Lifetime Achievement Award. John Nisser was born in Batroun, a small town north of Beirut, in Lebanon. His father died when he was just 15, so John took it upon himself to provide for his family by taking odd jobs and tutoring the children of wealthy families. By doing so, he was able to provide for the other five children

while becoming fluent in French, Arabic, English, and later Spanish. In 1947, John left Lebanon and journeyed first to South America and eventually to California. In California, he turned to the place of his faith for comfort and joined the church of Our Lady of Mt. Lebanon. Here he married Rosalie Barhouse in 1949. Dreaming of owning his own business, he purchased and operated a small market. Still, he wanted to do more. After finally securing the necessary loans, he and Rosalie built and managed several apartment buildings, and later constructed three senior citizen homes. Through all this, he has never stopped giving thanks to God and his country for what life has given him. Due to his generosity, the church of St. Stephens in Batroun has been given new windows, an organ, pews, and a hearse. He has sponsored the building of the St. Vincent DePaul nursing home and set up an Endowment Fund through Our Lady of Mount Lebanon to provide for the poor in Lebanon. Here in the United States, many Lebanese transfer students were offered free rent in his apartments during the duration of their education. Our Lady of Mt. Lebanon has consistently been a recipient of his generosity.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these two men who have contributed greatly to their communities and touched the lives of many.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate a crown jewel of Northwestern Ohio on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

The University of Findlay was founded as Findlay College in 1882 by the Churches of God, General Conference. Back then, the City of Findlay's total population was less than 5,000; today, total enrollment at the University is approaching that milestone. The 1989 renaming of the College better reflects the size of the student population and the wide variety of academic programs offered: degrees are now awarded in more than 60 undergraduate areas.

Throughout its history, the University has earned accolades for its hands' on learning environment and its excellent faculty' student ratios. Named a 2007 Best Midwestern College by the Princeton Review, Findlay excels in distance learning programs through cutting-edge technologies; all of the required coursework to earn a Master of Business Administration degree may be taken online.

I am especially proud of the University's innovative work on terrorism response initiatives. Following the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, Ken Zirkle, who was then serving as President of the University, came to Congress to discuss how communities could better prepare to respond to terrorist attacks. Since then, Congress has helped the University form the Center for Terrorism Preparedness, a nationally recognized program that is helping first responders deal with emerging threats to our homeland.

Madam Speaker, ceremonies marking the 125th anniversary of the University's founding will take place on campus later this week. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Ohio, I congratulate the administration, faculty, staff, and students of the University of Findlay on this historic occasion. The people of Hancock County and throughout Ohio can take great pride in the work done at the University to prepare students to meet the challenges of the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EVERYONE  
DESERVES UNCONDITIONAL AC-  
CESS TO EDUCATION (EDUCATE)  
ACT MANDATORY FULL FUNDING  
FOR IDEA BIPARTISAN COM-  
PROMISE BILL

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Everyone Deserves Unconditional Access to Education Act, a bill to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. I thank my colleagues, Representatives FERGUSON and HOOLEY, for their work on this bill.

Madam Speaker, it was more than 30 years ago that Congress passed IDEA, requiring states to provide an appropriate education to students with special needs. At that time, Congress promised states that it would cover 40 percent of the costs to meet this goal. However, Congress has yet to fulfill its promise to states. In fact, Congress has never met even half of its commitment. This is unacceptable.

The bill I introduce today with Representatives FERGUSON and HOOLEY will fulfill our promise to states with guaranteed funding increases for IDEA every year. It will relieve the burden on states and ensure a quality education for all special needs students. And it will restore the integrity of this Congress by ensuring that a promise made is a promise kept.

Madam Speaker, states and students have waited more than 30 years for Congress to fulfill its pledge. I encourage members from both sides of the aisle to join with Representatives FERGUSON, HOOLEY, and me to support our schools and provide our students with the resources they need.

HONORING DOUGLAS D.  
HAWTHORNE

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it has been my distinct honor over the years to take note of the extraordinary valuable work done by Douglas D. Hawthorne for the 30th Congressional District of Texas, the State of Texas and this Nation.

Mr. Hawthorne, president and chief executive of Texas Health Resources was recognized this fall, when he received the Greer Garson-E.E. Fogelson Humanitarian Award at the Greer Garson Gala. Mr. Hawthorne serves

as a national role model through his leadership and unwavering commitment to helping people and furthering the awareness of Parkinson's disease in our community.

For more than a decade, Mr. Hawthorne has conducted a "quite revolution" in the treatment of Alzheimer. He helped establish the APDA's Parkinson's Information and Referral Center at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas in 1990 and developed a relationship with the local chapter.

Hawthorne served as president and chief executive officer of Presbyterian Healthcare Resources from 1983 until the formation of Texas Health Resources in 1997. He is past chairman of Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council and the Texas Hospital Association (THA). In 1996, he received the Boone Powell Sr. Award of Excellence for distinguished hospital administration by the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council. In 1994, he received THA's highest award, The Earl M. Collier Award for Distinguished Hospital Administration. He has chaired several American Hospital Association (AHA) committees and is a former at-large member of AHA's Board of Trustees. A Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), he received the Gold Medal Award in 2002, ACHE Regent Senior Level Health Care Executive Award in 1991 and served as Regent for Texas Greater Dallas/Fort Worth area of the ACHE. In 2003, Modern Healthcare magazine named Hawthorne number 30 on its list of the "100 Most Powerful People in Health Care."

Madam Speaker, as one who has worked closely with Alzheimer patients, I know that his efforts for battling this disease are unequaled and he is certainly one of our community's great leaders. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I rise with great pleasure to honor Douglas Hawthorne, on the occasion of his receiving the Greer Garson-E.E. Fogelson Humanitarian Award.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.J. RES. 20, FURTHER CON-  
TINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FIS-  
CAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2007*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 20, the Joint Funding Resolution that will complete action on the remainder of the fiscal year 2007 appropriations bills. This measure is not perfect, but it addresses the most urgent funding needs of federal programs while remaining within the tight budget constraints imposed by the previous Congress.

We are fixing this funding problem today because the former Republican leadership in the House and Senate failed to complete nine of the 11 appropriations bills for fiscal year 2007 before the 109th Congress adjourned in December 2006. The funding resolution we are voting on today will finally give federal programs a blueprint for their spending until September 30, 2007; however, it is not an ideal solution. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have rightly talked about challenges faced by certain programs that will see no in-

crease over fiscal year 2006 levels. I cannot help but wonder where their concerns were when they controlled the fate of those programs last year?

The Democratic leadership faced many hard decisions in funding the remainder of the appropriations bills, and my colleagues rose to the occasion. This endeavor required a careful analysis of many important programs, as well as a great deal of compromise. To start, this measure does not contain any earmarks or a cost-of-living pay increase for Members of Congress. I wholeheartedly agree that any congressional pay increase should not be passed until the minimum wage increase passes Congress. We all must move forward together. That is also why I am pleased that this measure will increase Section 8 funding, which will help renew vouchers for individuals and families that cannot afford exorbitant housing prices on their own.

I am proud that my colleagues were able to increase funds for other high priority needs as well, such as veterans and military health care. We must make sure that service members wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan have the services they require, as well as anticipate the increasing number of returning veterans who have earned their promised benefits. This measure will also fund an increase in programs for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as well as local law enforcement programs, such as the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, which are critical to keeping our communities safe. At both the state and federal level, our work on intelligence and security must not be threatened by a lack of resources.

The funding resolution will also increase the maximum amount of a Pell grant so that more than 5.3 million students can help pay rising college expenses. I am especially pleased that this increase, the first in 4 years, will strengthen a program first introduced by an esteemed Rhode Islander, Senator Claiborne Pell. This measure also helps the youngest and most vulnerable group of students in our country by increasing Head Start funding to prevent a drop in enrollments.

Finally, this resolution also highlights areas where we need to move our country forward like health care and energy security. We are providing increased funding for community health centers, as well as scientific research; both the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation will be funded over last year's level. The Department of Energy will also receive additional resources for research and development activities for renewable energy and energy efficiency programs.

After completion of H.J. Res 20, I look forward to working toward timely passage of a Fiscal Year 2008 budget that provides the necessary funding for some of our nation's most critical programs. The Democratic leadership has reinstated the pay-as-you-go budget rule, so that new spending has to be offset by a decrease in spending elsewhere in the budget. This promise was made last year, when we told the voters that we would bring this Congress in a new direction and demand fiscal responsibility. The measure we pass today, as well as the work we will do in the coming months, will show Americans that this Congress can be responsive to the public, enhance support for federal programs vital to our working families, and be careful stewards of taxpayer dollars.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements and contributions of Enterprise Rent-A-Car, the largest car-rental company in North America and an integral part of the local Saint Louis community.

Enterprise has annual revenues of more than 9 billion and is currently number 21 on the Forbes "500 Largest Private Companies in America" list.

Operating on the principle that good business derives from a well-trained and well-treated staff, the company has been cited by Business Week as one of the Best Places to Launch a Career. In 2005, Enterprise received the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award for efforts on behalf of its employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve.

Enterprise is as dedicated to the public, as they are to their own employees.

In 1982, the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation was created, and has, over the past 25 years, given more than \$87 million to non-profit entities, has donated \$30 million to schools and scholarships to support minorities and economically-challenged students, and has contributed \$1 million each to both the Red Cross relief effort for the Gulf Coast, as well as the victims of 9-11.

With its charitable works, avid support of its employees, and economic success, Economic Rent-A-Car is a truly dynamic corporation.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to this organization, who has made great contributions to the local Saint Louis community and the larger national community, and is a model for effective and charismatic business.

HONORING OPERATION HELMET

**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and personal gratitude that I recognize the remarkable work of Mike and Marie Farley who, along with Rodney Van Pelt and other members of the Quakertown Moose Lodge No. 1622, took bold initiative to provide our soldiers with life-saving equipment.

Marie Farley of Nockamixon, Pennsylvania was shocked to learn that antiquated gear was being issued to U.S. soldiers—including to her 23-year-old son Michael, a Marine stationed in Anbar Province, Iraq. She learned that with an upgrade kit, her son's helmet could do more to protect him. If Michael was knocked down by an explosion, the shock-absorbing pad and new strap system could save his life. But Mrs. Farley and her husband Mike discovered that if they wanted their son and his unit to have this simple safety feature, they would have to raise the money themselves.

The Farleys were not alone in their desire to provide U.S. soldiers with proper equipment. A national initiative—Operation Helmet—was underway and the Farleys quickly sought to localize the effort. Mrs. Farley made up signs asking for donations and put one of those signs at the Quakertown Moose Lodge. That is where the project took off. After learning about the need for the protective pads, Rodney Van Pelt of the Moose Club joined the Farleys to aggressively pursue the goal of equipping Michael's entire unit with the upgrade. The Moose Club and the rest of the community rallied around the family and raised enough to take care of Michael's entire company, not just his unit.

As of today, the Farleys and the Quakertown Moose Club have raised \$35,000, enough for almost 500 upgrade kits. The kits have been shipped out and came as early Christmas presents for soldiers overseas. This accomplishment is inspiring and is a telling example of true patriotism and respect.

Having led convoys in a Humvee without doors while serving with the 82nd Airborne Division in Baghdad, I understand what it means to fight a war without proper equipment. So I speak from experience when I say that this kind of support from home is wholeheartedly appreciated and serves as a tremendous morale boost. But Madam Speaker, family members should not be forced to pay for their loved ones' military equipment. The Farleys were able to gather tremendous community support but despite their best efforts they couldn't supply all U.S. forces, and many families are paying out-of-pocket. This is unfair and I urge you all to support the Helmet Pad Reimbursement Act of 2007. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill because at the very least, these families should have the opportunity to request a reimbursement.

This is an issue of critical importance to our troops and I commend all who have brought it to light. On behalf of the men and women with whom I served, Mr. and Mrs. Farley, Mr. Van Pelt, the Quakertown Moose Lodge and most importantly, Michael and all the soldiers who continue to risk their lives for this country, I urge Congress to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO HAROLD REYNDERS  
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG

### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Harold Reynders as the recent recipient of the St. Jude Medal from the Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg. A dedicated volunteer at the St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church for nearly two decades, Harold has given his time and energy to help his fellow parishioners.

Born in Lancaster, NY, Harold ran his own construction company in Buffalo for 37 years. Moving with his wife Corinne to Spring Hill, FL in 1988 in search of warmer weather, Harold began attending St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church in 1989.

Each day Harold would go to church, work throughout the sanctuary and help keep the

church neat and clean. His efforts were eventually brought to the attention of Monsignor John Cippel, who gave Harold Keys to the church and an official position as a sacristan.

For the next 10 years, Harold prepared the altar for the Mass and cleaned up following the sermon. He also was given the responsibility of opening the church doors each morning, and served as a lector and minister at the Sunday Masses.

This past November, Harold was presented with the St. Jude Medal that "honors individuals who have consistently given of themselves to living the gospel of Jesus Christ by their generosity and service." Presented on the Feast of Christ the King Day at the Cathedral of St. Jude in St. Petersburg, Harold was truly humbled to receive the honor.

Madam Speaker, Harold Reynders has spent a lifetime as a devout Catholic, working to make his parish and his church a better place to worship. He should be commended for his years of service and for being honored with the St. Jude Medal.

### APPALACHIAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2007

### HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, today I, together with Ranking Member MICA, Economic Development Subcommittee Chairwoman NORTON, Subcommittee Ranking Member GRAVES, and many Members who represent communities of the Appalachian region, introduce the Appalachian Regional Development Act Amendments of 2007. This bipartisan bill improves the programs authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 and reauthorizes the Appalachian Regional Commission for five years through FY 2011.

I am proud to sponsor this bill, which builds on more than four decades of economic development successes through job creation in some of the Nation's most disadvantaged yet deserving communities. I have witnessed firsthand the triumph that is possible when the Federal Government joins in partnership with states, localities, economic development districts, and private businesses to break the cycle of crippling and pervasive poverty. It is an economic certainty that job deficiencies reduce the tax base, which reduces the ability of governments to provide public infrastructure, which further reduces the ability to create and attract new industries. Generating jobs must therefore continue to be our top priority in communities suffering economic distress, particularly in Appalachia.

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) was created by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-4) to address economic issues and social problems of the Appalachian region as a part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society program. Congress created the ARC in 1965 to assist the Appalachian region "in providing the infrastructure necessary for economic and human resource development, in developing the regions' industry, in building entrepreneurial communities, in generating a diversi-

fied regional economy and in making the region's industrial and commercial resources more competitive in the national and world markets."

As a regional economic development agency, ARC's primary function is to support development of Appalachia's economy and critical infrastructure to provide a climate for industry growth and job creation. ARC includes all or part of 13 States: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Historically, the Appalachian region has faced high levels of poverty and economic distress resulting from geographic isolation and inadequate infrastructure. Since its creation in 1965, ARC has administered a variety of programs to aid in the development and advancement of the region, including the creation of a highway system, enhancements in education and job training, and the development of water and sewer systems.

ARC's funding and projects have contributed significantly to employment, health, public works, and general economic development improvements in the region. The regional poverty rate has been reduced by almost one-half. High school graduation rates have doubled, and the percentage of Appalachian students now completing high school is slightly above the national average. The infant mortality rate has been cut by two-thirds, and ARC funds have helped build more than 400 health facilities serving four million people in Appalachia.

ARC projects have also helped to construct 2,496 miles of new Federal-aid highways. In the last five years alone, ARC-funded infrastructure projects have resulted in the creation or retention of 136,000 jobs, and over 183,000 households have reaped the benefits of clean water and sanitation facilities.

Yet, our work to ensure the economic viability and vitality of the communities that are part of the ARC is far from finished. Approximately one-fifth of ARC's counties remain in a state of economic distress. One-fourth of Appalachia's counties have a poverty rate that is more than 150 percent of the national average. Additional Federal investments are necessary to build upon the progress made to date.

Specifically, this bill directs ARC to designate as "at-risk counties," which are counties in the Appalachian region that are most at risk of becoming economically distressed; establishes the maximum Federal share for Appalachian Regional Commission non-highway grant amounts for designated at-risk counties as 70 percent; authorizes additional appropriations to the Commission through FY 2011 to carry out Appalachian regional development; and extends, for five years, the termination date of the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 (with exceptions for the Appalachian development highway system and certain definitions).

During the 107th Congress, the House passed the Appalachian Regional Development Reauthorization Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-149), which built upon past successes of the Appalachian Regional Commission, made several amendments to existing law, and extended the authorization for an additional five years.

ARC's authorization expired at the end of FY 2006. During the 109th Congress, the Committee's bipartisan leadership introduced



H.R. 5812, a bill reauthorizing ARC through FY 2011. Although the Senate passed S. 2832 to reauthorize the ARC, the Senate-passed bill did not include the anti-earmarking provision of H.R. 5812. The House did not pass S. 2832 and no further action was taken on H.R. 5812. This bill includes the anti-earmarking provision that I insisted upon in the 109th Congress.

The ARC, and the critical investments that it provides, are far too important for further delay. Congress should show its commitment to the people of Appalachia by getting this bill to the President's desk early in the 110th Congress.

I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this bipartisan bill to reauthorize the Appalachian Regional Commission.

#### HONORING KRISTIN WILLETT

#### HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kristin Willett, an exemplary citizen from my district who was recently named recipient of the Elizabethtown Independent Schools' 2006–07 Excellence in the Classroom and Educational Leadership (ExCEL) Award.

An art teacher at the Morningside Elementary School in Elizabethtown, KY, Mrs. Willett has made a personal commitment to education, creating an environment in her classroom where students of varying ages and abilities can comfortably learn and demonstrate their creative talents. For more than 4 years, she has captured the attention of her students through her innovative and interactive approach, using a wide variety of visual resources to promote connections to art.

Mrs. Willett chose to pursue a career in teaching as a way to make a tangible difference in the most important foundation of our society—children. In her interaction with students, she personifies honesty, trust, organization, creativity, and knowledge; qualities that consistently make her a favorite teacher and role-model. Her best reward, she explains, is seeing children excited by their own creativity.

I applaud Mrs. Willett for her accomplishments in public education, a profession of great responsibility and even greater reward. On behalf of many others in the Elizabethtown area, I would like to express my profound appreciation for her service.

It is my great privilege to recognize Kristin Willett today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for her special achievement. Her unique dedication to the development of young people and the communities they will someday serve make her an outstanding citizen worthy of our collective honor and respect.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference.

This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 6, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### FEBRUARY 7

9:30 a.m.

##### Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Energy.

SD-366

9:45 a.m.

##### Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the United States Department of Agriculture farm bill proposal.

SD-106

10 a.m.

##### Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled "Public Transportation Terrorism Prevention Act of 2007"; to be followed by hearings to examine predatory lending practices and home foreclosures.

SH-216

##### Budget

To hold hearings to examine the President's Fiscal Year 2008 budget proposal.

SD-608

##### Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine climate change research and scientific integrity.

SR-253

##### Finance

To hold hearings to examine the President's Fiscal Year 2008 budget proposal.

SD-215

##### Environment and Public Works

Private Sector and Consumer Solutions to Global Warming and Wildlife Protection Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine global warming and wildlife, focusing on informing the Committee and the United States Senate on issues related to global warming and wildlife.

SD-406

##### Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the hazards of electronic voting, focusing on the machinery of democracy.

SR-301

2:30 p.m.

##### Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

##### FEBRUARY 8

9:15 a.m.

##### Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the President's foreign affairs budget; there is a possibility of a business meeting to consider the nomination of John D.

Negroponte, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

SD-106

9:30 a.m.

##### Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine issues relating to labor, immigration, law enforcement, and economic conditions in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

SD-366

##### Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by an oversight hearing on diabetes in Indian Country, focusing on the Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

SR-485

##### Appropriations

Transportation, Treasury, the Judiciary, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the President's budget request for Fiscal Year 2008 for the Department of Transportation.

SD-138

10 a.m.

##### Budget

To hold hearings to examine the President's Fiscal Year 2008 budget and revenue proposals.

SD-608

##### Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the present and future of public safety communications.

SR-253

##### Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine No Child Left Behind reauthorization, focusing on strategies that promote school improvement.

SH-216

##### Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 188, to revise the short title of the Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006, S. 214, to amend chapter 35 of title 28, United States Code, to preserve the independence of United States attorneys, S. 316, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, S. 236, to require reports to Congress on Federal agency use of data mining, S. Res. 36, honoring women's health advocate Cynthia Boles Dailard, S. Res. 37, designating March 26, 2007 as "National Support the Troops Day" and encouraging the people of the United States to participate in a moment of silence to reflect upon the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces both at home and abroad, and the nominations of Marcia Morales Howard, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, Nora Barry Fischer, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Norman Randy Smith, of Idaho, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, John Alfred Jarvey, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa, and Sara Elizabeth Lioi, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

##### Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

<p>FEBRUARY 9</p> <p>9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Armed Services</p> <p>To receive a briefing on the Department of Defense Inspector General's report on the activities of the Office of Special Plans prior to the war in Iraq; to be followed by a closed session in SR-232A.</p> <p>SR-222</p>	<p>pacts of climate change and stabilizing greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.</p> <p>SD-106</p> <p>Appropriations</p> <p>Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee</p> <p>To hold oversight hearings to examine the Outer Continental Shelf oil and natural gas royalty management by the Department of the Interior.</p> <p>SD-124</p>	<p>closed session in SR-222 following the open session.</p> <p>SH-216</p> <p>Commerce, Science, and Transportation Aviation Subcommittee</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the Administration's proposal to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (Part 1).</p> <p>SR-253</p> <p>Energy and Natural Resources</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of the Interior.</p> <p>SD-366</p> <p>10 a.m.</p> <p>Finance</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the Administration trade agenda for 2007.</p> <p>SD-215</p>
<p>FEBRUARY 12</p> <p>2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Energy and Natural Resources Energy Subcommittee</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine recommendations on policies and programs to improve the energy efficiency of buildings and to expand the role of electric and gas utilities in energy efficiency programs.</p> <p>SD-366</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 14</p> <p>10 a.m.</p> <p>Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the semi-annual monetary policy report to the Congress.</p> <p>SD-106</p> <p>Judiciary</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine judicial security and independence.</p> <p>SD-226</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 28</p> <p>2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Commerce, Science, and Transportation Science and Space Subcommittee</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the President's budget for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).</p> <p>SR-253</p>
<p>FEBRUARY 13</p> <p>10 a.m.</p> <p>Energy and Natural Resources</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the "Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change" examining the economic im-</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 15</p> <p>9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Armed Services</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the current and future readiness of the Army and Marine Corps; there is a possibility of a</p>	